

LOYD GEORGE THREATENS TO RESIGN IF CONSCRIPTION IS NOT ADOPTED

Undoubted Crisis Coming Close in British Political Life—Lord Derby's Scheme is Not a Success.

London, Dec. 28.—David Lloyd George has threatened to resign from the Government unless compulsory service is inaugurated. He made his declaration to Premier Asquith yesterday before the Cabinet went into session to decide one way or the other the question of conscription.

Last night Great Britain was on the brink of another Governmental rupture. The Cabinet has split on the matter of compulsory service. After an all-day session, it is understood that certain of the Ministers refused to be convinced and to give their vote on Lloyd George's demands. It being impossible to arrive at an agreement, the session was adjourned until today at 11:40.

Lord Derby's enlistment plan has failed. That, at least, appears certain as a result of yesterday's Cabinet disagreement. His report was taken by the Cabinet, and the chief topic of discussion. The figures plainly showed that a vast number of single men have absolutely refused to come forward.

Compulsion or not compulsion is at least the clearly cut question before the Cabinet. It fails to vote for compulsion a complete disorganization of its membership is almost certain. The leading newspapers of the country are crying for a majority of the leading politicians are doing the same.

No one but realizes the seriousness of the present crisis. If Premier Asquith fails to make good his pledge that conscription would follow a fair game and especially the financial pressure of the war. General Castelnau so reported the King's opinion to-night in a statement to the Associated Press. The Greek sovereign astounded the French commander why by the slowness of their operations they had permitted the crushing of Belgium and Serbia and the failure of the Dardanelles campaign. General Castelnau's reply was that nobody denies these unfortunate results were extremely regrettable.

"It would be most highly desirable," the general declared, "if Belgium and Serbia were still intact and if Russia could be driven to the Baltic. It would be the war as a whole, but we must see the war as a whole, it would be folly, capable of jeopardizing of final victory, of which alone we have the right to think, to undertake any military action without the most complete preparation and every assurance of success humanly possible.

If materials and forces are not available, however painful the result of inaction may be, it is truly criminal to go off half-cock. Remember the Crimea, where the Russians so long held the Malakoff tower with their locks and round cannon and the German line to-day is a row of Malakoff towers with other rows behind.

Brutal Murder of a French Canadian Farmer

Francois Frechette, of St. Cesaire, Quebec, Summoned From His House, and Later Found Done to Death.

St. Cesaire, Que. Dec. 28.—Details of the murder last night of Francois Frechette, a local farmer, have been secured by High Constable Boisvert, of Sweetsburg.

Frechette was sitting with his family, between 8 and 9 o'clock when a voice called to him from the outside. Frechette stepped outside in his shirt sleeves and one of his daughters went to the window. As Frechette left the house the girl saw one of three men standing outside walk down the path to the road and then come back. She then turned from the window, thinking it was only some neighbors on a business visit. After that, no sound was heard.

When the family, becoming curious at his long absence outside without any clothing, opened the door, they found Frechette lying unconscious in the path. He lay in a pool of his own blood, which flowed from a gash across his throat. A doctor was sent for, but the farmer died before the arrival of the physician, without regaining consciousness.

The whole countryside was soon aroused, and suspicion fastened itself upon three men living in the village. The description given of the trio by the daughter of the murdered man, fitted the three men who are suspected. High Constable Boisvert was commended with and he, being ill, ordered the detention of the three suspects until he could communicate with the provincial detectives, and have properly authorized officers on hand to work on the case to-day. So far as could be learned by High Constable Boisvert last night, Frechette had had no quarrel with any of his neighbors, and the motive for the crime is unknown. Frechette is survived by a large family.

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BOMBARDED POSTS IN BULGARIA

Russians Also Sank Two Vessels and Sub. in Black Sea.

Petrograd, Dec. 27.—Via London, Dec. 28.—The official statement issued to-day by general headquarters read as follows: "Western Front: At Scharden, in the direction Novo Post region, a Russian detachment organized a surprise attack upon a German post. At four o'clock in the morning, the Russians approached without being seen, cut the wire obstacles in many places, threw themselves upon the German posts, flung hand grenades through the windows, and after a hand-to-hand encounter destroyed the whole post. Six prisoners were taken. In spite of a heavy fire from the south, the Russians retired successfully with insignificant losses. In the region of Czarvillage of Novo Podcherevitchi, we annihilated another German post, taking sixteen prisoners.

In the Black Sea near the Bulgarian shore two torpedo boats destroyed two sailing vessels and bombarded posts upon the shore. The enemy's submarines attacked our destroyer, the Gromkii, near the Bulgarian coast. The Gromkii skillfully evaded two torpedoes and repulsed an attack by one of the submarines which was sunk. "Caucasus front: West of Khamaden our troops occupied the village of Rabataberim, forty versts (about 27 miles) southwest of Teheran, with Persian gendarmes and tribes of Emir Khichimet, we took prisoner 71 insurgents."

IN FERNAL MACHINE IN MONTREAL MONTREAL, Dec. 28.—An infernal machine exploded in St. Timothee street this morning and damaged a number of houses. The bomb was apparently exploded because Arnino Ferquid, a grocer, refused to accede to a Black Hand letter demanding \$2,000. The grocer's premises were partially wrecked, while the windows of twenty houses were smashed. Miss Casili, residing two doors away from the grocer, suffered a broken arm, while several people were injured by broken glass.

OFFENSIVE STARTING PARIS, Dec. 28, 2:35 p.m.—An artillery engagement of great activity over the whole front in the Vosges was reported in the communication this afternoon from the war office.

THE ONTARIO LICENSE BOARD says the hotels of Brantford are well equipped and well conducted. Well conducted licensed hotels under license control and restrictions are admittedly preferable to dives where illicit selling flourishes. Which is Brantford going to have.—Advt.

PLUCKY ACTION OF A FARMER Made Daring Stop of Runaway This Morning on Colborne Street. A very daring and plucky act was witnessed this morning on Colborne Street near the Market Square, when a farmer, name unknown, stopped a runaway horse and cutter, proceeding at a fast clip westward. The horse was being driven by a boy, when in front of the Street Railway office, the runner became caught in the car tracks, throwing the boy out. The horse became frightened and bolted up the street, the overturned cutter swinging to and fro behind it. A farmer, walking along Colborne Street, saw the mishap, and rushing out, threw himself at the horse in passing, grasping it about the neck. He missed in the attempt, the result might have been fatal, as the result was swinging dangerously. As it was, by his sheer weight, he succeeded in soon bringing the horse to a standstill. The boy came hurrying up and righting the cutter, drove away, none the worse. The cutter was only slightly damaged, while the hero of the occasion got out of sight as quickly as possible.

J. Ruppert, brewer, left personal property valued at \$6,382.579, according to an appraisal filed in the Surrogate Court.

UNITED STATES AND AUSTRIA WILL LIKELY SEVER DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Both Capitals Believe American Demand Will Not be Met—S.S. Rotterdam Carries 3 Noted Men.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Austria, according to unofficial information received in authoritative quarters here to-day, will not meet the demands of the United States in her forthcoming reply to the Ancona note and Teuton diplomatic circles are represented as being prepared for a severance of diplomatic relations.

AUSTRIA THINKS SO, TOO. Paris, Dec. 28.—Unconfirmed advices from Vienna, as published by The Petit Journal, says the impression prevailed in Austro-Hungarian Government circles that the forthcoming reply to the Ancona incident will bring about a diplomatic rupture between the two nations. "The Petit Journal's despatch, forwarded from Geneva says: "According to advices from Vienna, the Austro-Hungarian answer to the American note was the subject for a long discussion Sunday night between Premier Tisza of Hungary and the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, Baron Von Burian. The foreign minister also conferred with Dr. C. T. Dumba, former Austro-Hungarian ambassador at Washington. "Although no definite decision has yet been reached, the impression in governmental circles is that the answer will bring about a diplomatic rupture."

MIXED COMPANY. New York, Dec. 28.—Three men who figure prominently in the diplomatic relations of the United States have cabins on the Holland-American Line steamer Rotterdam, leaving here to-day for Rotterdam by way of Falmouth, England. They are: Colonel E. M. House, friend and confidential adviser of President Wilson, who goes to Europe at the request of the president. Brand Whitlock, United States minister to Belgium, who is returning to his post at Brussels, after a vacation spent with his family at Toledo, O. Captain Karl Boy-Erd, formerly naval attaché of the German embassy in Washington, who was recalled by the German emperor at the request of the United States Government because of improper activities in naval matters.

BRITISH DENY ARAB ATTACK NEAR EGYPT One Arab Force Attacked and Dispersed by English on Saturday. London, Dec. 27.—Turkish reports of a victory over the British in Egypt, in which the British lost 300 men, two field cannon and ten automobiles, are denied in a statement issued last night by the Official Press Bureau. The statement says: "With reference to to-day's Turkish official statement, the War Office states that there was no fighting from December 14 to 24 between British troops and the Arabs on the western frontier of Egypt. "On December 25 the principal Arab force, which had been located eight miles from Mers-a-Matru, was attacked and dispersed. The British losses were trifling. "The Turkish official statement said: "Several detachments of Senussi troops yesterday continued their successful attacks against the British in Egypt, and cleared the Siva district completely of British. One detachment advancing along the coast attacked the town of Matruh, east of Solum, and in the resultant engagement 300 British soldiers were killed. The others fled. "They took from the British two field cannon, ten automobiles, three of which were armored, and a large amount of artillery ammunition."

SERBIAN ARMY IS INTACT Rome, Dec. 28.—Gen. Popovic of the Serbian army, who has just arrived in Italy in charge of a batch of prisoners, states that the Serbian army is practically intact, although it has lost an enormous amount of material. Colonel and Mrs. Henry Watterson, of Louisville, Ky., on Monday celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

PARIS IS IMPRESSED BY CASTELNAU'S INTERVIEW French General Told King Constantine One Thing He Feared Was That Teutons Would Not Attack Saloniki. Paris, Dec. 28.—"The interview between King Constantine and General Castelnau is being much discussed in official circles at Athens," says the Matin. "The sovereign seems to have been impressed favorably by the general's clear exposition of the situation of the allies on all fronts. "The King renewed to General Castelnau, the assurance that his army never would fight against us and once more expressed the strong desire that his word should not be doubted."

WITH THE SOLDIERS Eighteen men signed up this morning, a striking result of the Brant Theatre recruiting meeting on Sunday night. Of these, nine have had military experience of some kind or other. John L. Miller, English, 21, driver, single, 153 Sydenham St. William Bodcock, English, blacksmith, married, 3 years Garrison artillery, 21 Ruth street. Arthur Churchward, English, 28, Brad-hammer operator, married, 6 Wallace street. Harry Elliott, English, 20, machinist, single, 1 year 38 Battery, 20 Cayuga street. John Watson, English, 27, lathe hand, married, 11 years 25th Brant Dragoons, 149 Darling St. William Mathewson, Canadian, 33, stove moulder, single, 233 Darling St. Charles W. Williams, Canadian, 43, railroader, widower 3 years 38th D. R. C., 3 years Durham Field Battery, 260 Darling St. George Ramsey, Scotch, 31, laborer, married, 6 Spring street. George Butterworth, Canadian, 18, clerk, single 3 1-2 years, B. C. L., 207 Chatham Street. Ralph H. Kingdon, American, 18, clerk, single, 90 Arthur street. George Rickwood, Canadian, 29, painter, married, 18 years 38th D. R. C., 24 Mintern avenue. William Brown, English, miner, married, 61 Mintern avenue. James Turner, English, 34, lathe hand, married, 8 years Lancashire Fusiliers, 1 1-2 years 38th D. R. C., 11 Sterling street. Thos. F. Galloway, Scotch, 24, laborer, single, city. Thomas L. Wright, Canadian, 18, farmer single, Mt. Pleasant.

PROGRESS OF RECENT OPERATIONS ON GRECO-SERBIAN FRONTIER Reviewing recent operations, Reuter's correspondent at Salonica says it fighting during the week did no serious harm to the allied forces, the Bulgarians having shown no desire to come to close quarters. "The British casualties on that day," says the correspondent, "although severe, totalled less than a thousand, but during the rest of the week a few dozen would sum up the total casualties along the whole Franco-British front." In a despatch filed at Salonica Reuter's correspondent says the Bulgarians have occupied the positions formerly held by the Serbians along the Greco-Serbian frontier.

CONSTANTINE NOW BELIEVES WE WILL WIN

Remarkable Interview Between Him and General Castelnau.

ASKED ABOUT THE ENTENTE FAILURES Frenchman Explains That Allies Will Prepare Before Driving.

ATHENS, Dec. 27, via Paris, Dec. 27, 11:30 p.m. (delayed)—In the course of an interview to-day with General Castelnau, chief of the French general staff, King Constantine expressed doubt that the Central Empires would be able to resist indefinitely the economic and especially the financial pressure of the war. General Castelnau so reported the King's opinion to-night in a statement to the Associated Press. The Greek sovereign astounded the French commander why by the slowness of their operations they had permitted the crushing of Belgium and Serbia and the failure of the Dardanelles campaign. General Castelnau's reply was that nobody denies these unfortunate results were extremely regrettable.

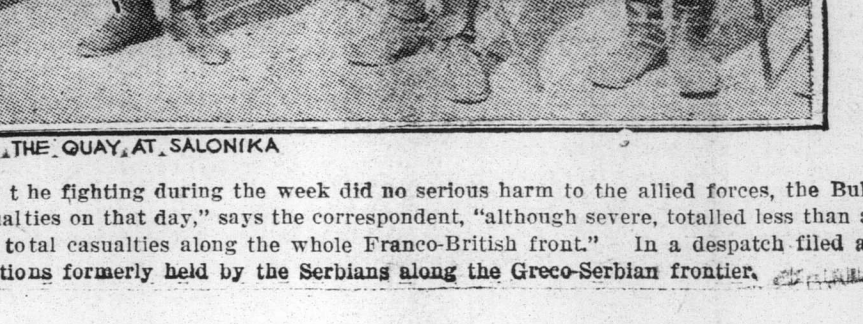
"It would be most highly desirable," the general declared, "if Belgium and Serbia were still intact and if Russia could be driven to the Baltic. It would be the war as a whole, but we must see the war as a whole, it would be folly, capable of jeopardizing of final victory, of which alone we have the right to think, to undertake any military action without the most complete preparation and every assurance of success humanly possible.

If materials and forces are not available, however painful the result of inaction may be, it is truly criminal to go off half-cock. Remember the Crimea, where the Russians so long held the Malakoff tower with their locks and round cannon and the German line to-day is a row of Malakoff towers with other rows behind.

"But just as the Russians finally were forced to give up so must the Germans. I have given them three sons; I have two more; but their lives, too, will be paid, if need be, that victory may be complete."

BELGIAN RELIEF FUND That the Belgians are suffering severely and are worthy of every help is everywhere conceded. You can help, and a subscription sent to either Mr. H. T. Watt, secretary of the Brant Patriotic and War Relief Association, or to Mr. George Hately, secretary of the Board of Trade, will be thankfully received.

Lincoln's action is not a precedent, because conditions were different. Lincoln was distracted by wholesale desertions, while recruiting was stimulated by the Government's offer of bounties. The Chronicle adds: "Our voluntary army in one year exceeded in numbers all the men recruited by the Federal Government in the four years of the war, and that without drafts to force them or bounties to bribe them."



GREEK OFFICERS ON THE QUAY AT SALONIKA

Vertical text on the left margin: ODS, Brantford Neighbors Build Up Follow, AN SUPPLY, Portland Cement, ment Company, Brantford, PRINTING, BOB DEPT., ND", ENT, tes, body. They, h, Delicacies of Candies, COLATES some "Dan", NE, et Street, mas?, 5 to \$175, 5 to \$100, 30 to \$50, \$18.50, 55 to \$95, 5 to \$110, wedge, Children's, Co., ates, es, en, Boys or, kating sup-, RSE, S, C., grind in the, ELL, Phone 148